

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 145260

12
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09
DRAFTED BY:EA/U:WCSHERMAN
APPROVED BY:EA/J-WILLIAM C SHERMAN
----- 115380
R 201615Z JUN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO USIA WASHDC INFO SECSTATE MOSCOW
BUDAPEST BUCHAREST BELGRADE SOFIA VIENNA KRAKOW POZNAN DTG R 170725Z
JUN 75 FM WARSAW

QUOTE

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USIA FOR IEE; VIENNA FOR RPO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, PL
SUBJECT: V-J DAY WINDOW EXHIBIT

REF: STATE 121641-C

1. WE HAVE GIVEN CAREFUL THOUGHT TO THE REACTION OF THE DEPART-
MENT AND USIA TO THE PROPOSED V'J DAY WINDOW EXHIBIT.
WE AGAIN STRONGLY URGE RPO PORDUCTION OF THIS DISPLAY
THE ALLIED VICTORY IN THE ASIAN THEATER OF WORLD WAR II IS
AN HISTORICAL FACT. THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS EVENT
OCCURS ONLY ONCE. TO IGNORE THAT ANNIVERSARY AFTER THE LARGE
WINDOW EXHBIT WE DEVOTED TO V-E DAY WOULD MAKE NO SENSE AT
ALL.

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2. IN A CONTROLLED MEDIA ENVIRONMENT, THAT IMPERATIVE ASSUMES STILL

GREATER SIGNIFICANCE. POLISH MEDIA WILL MINIMIZE THE UNITED STATES ROLE AND EXAGGERATE THAT OF THE SOVIET UNION IN THE CONCLUSION OF WORLD WAR II IN AUGUST, 1945. IN EASTERN EUROPE. THE MEDIA ARE CONTROLLED AND THE PUBLIC HAS LIMITED ACCESS TO OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION. CONSEQUENTLY, AN ATTEMPT MUST BE MADE TO BALANCE THE PICTURE WITH THE MODEST MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL.

3. IF THE TEXT IS CAREFULLY PREPARED AND PHOTOGRAPHS CAREFULLY SELECTED (AND WE WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT AND USIA RECOMMENDATIONS), WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY RISK WHATSOEVER OF OFFENDING OUR JAPANESE COLLEAGUES. LIKE OUR GERMAN ALLIES, WHO DID NOT TAKE OFFENSE AT THE V-E DAY DISPLAY, OUR JAPANESE COLLEAGUES ARE REALISTS WHO WILL UNDERSTAND THE DESIRABILITY OF NOT PERMITTING THE POLISH MEDIA TO DECLARE WITHOUT CHALLENGE THAT THE SOVIET ARMY PLAYED THE PRINCIPAL PART IN DEFEATING JAPAN.

4. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HAVE RPO PREPARE A PROFESSIONAL EXHIBIT FOR OUR USE. IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, WE SHALL HAVE TO PREPARE ONE LOCALLY. I STRONGLY URGE THAT THE VIEW PUT FORWARD IN REFTEL BE RECONSIDERED.

DAVIES
UNQUOTE
KISSINGER

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NNN

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